DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828 NAZIWAR CRIMES DISCLOBURE ACT DATE 2008

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VISITED PRIZREN AND DISCUSSED BERISHA CASE WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES. WAS ALLOWED TO TALK WITH BERISHA AND WAS GIVEN STATEMENT BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES STATING THAT BERISHA UNDER INVESTIGATION "BECAUSE OF GROUNDED SUSPICION THAT FROM THE FALL OF 1950 HE USED TO COME, TO CARRY OUT THE TASKS OF THE AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (CIA) IN AN ARMED GROUP: AHMET KABASIJA, BECIR BAJGORA, SACIR KABASI, AND HAJREDIN VUCITRNA, ONTO THE TERRITORY OF YUGOSLAVIA ON WHICH OCCASION HE STAYED A FAIRLY LONG TIME ILLEGALLY AND ARMED WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF GATHERING DATA AND CREATING A BASE FOR THE EXECUTION OF HOSTILE ACTS - THE RAISING OF INSURRECTIONS, WHICH WOULD SERVE THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF THE U.S.A. (CIA). SO DOING IN THIS MANNER, HE COMMITTED THE CRIMINAL ACT OF ORGANIZING AND BRINGING ONTO TERRITORY OF YUGOSLAVIA ARMED GROUPS, INDIVIDUALS, AND

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MATERIALS AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE ILI, ITEM 1, CRIMINAL CODE."

2. 1 LEARNED THAT INVESTIGATION WOULD NOT BE COMPLETED

FOR 18-12 DAYS, AFTER INDICTMENT WOULD HE HANDED DOWN. BUT

NO TRANS OF TRIAL. THE FOUND GUILTY, BERISHA COULD BE

SENTENCED TO FROM 3 YEARS TO DEATH. IN TERMS OF TRIAL. TRIAL

WOULD BE OPEN. SLIGHT POSSIBILITY MAY EXIST THAT AUTHORITIES:

WOULD REWORD INDICTMENT, EITHER TO CLARIFY FACT THAT ACTIVITIES.

NOT DIRECTED AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA OR: TO OBSCURE AMERICAN INVOLVE-MENT.

3. BERISHA CASE UNFORTUNATELY COINCIDES WITH A) MODEST
YUGOSLAV ATTEMPT IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA, AND B)
SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS' CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE INCREASED
VIGILANCE AGAINST FOREIGN AGENTS ON PART OF YUGOSLAV POPULATION.
IN ABSENCE
BELIEVES LITTLE PURPOSE WOULD
BE SERVED BY INTERVENING LOCALLY WITH SSFA, WHICH IN PAST HAS:
BEEN RELUCTANT OR SIMPLY UNABLE TO INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY WITH
SERVICE. SUCH INTERVENTION MIGHT EVEN MAKE CASE WORSE BY
STRENGTHENING RESOLVE OF AUTHORITIES TO PROSECUTE BERISHA.
STATION CONCURS IN THIS ASSESSMENT.

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PAGE 3 BELGRADE 3484 S E C R E T
INTERVENTION SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON AT FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL
WITH AMBASSADOR CRNOBRNJA. CASE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE HANDLED
AS NORMAL CONSULAR PROTECTION CASE LOCALLY.

- 4. PREPARING LNPURE CABLE GIVING FACTS AND REQUESTING GUIDANCE FROM LNGOLD. ASSUME HQS WILL COORDINATE WITH LNGOLD ON REPLY.
- DOCATED A NEW, MORE EFFECTIVE LAWYER FOR BERISHA. HAS REQUESTED STATION FUNDS FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO BERISHA WHICH WOULD BE DISPENSED AS IF THEY HAD COME THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS AND BE USED TO PAY BILL OF FIRST LAWYER BERISHA HAD AND PERHAPS PAY PART OF SUBSEQUENT COSTS. ADVISE MAXIMUM LIMIT SUCH STATION ASSISTANCE.
- 6. REQUEST HQS TRACES ON FOUR PERSONS MENTIONED ABOVE IN
 PARA 1 AS MEMBERS OF BERISHA'S ARMED GROUP. ALSO TRACES ON
 BERISHA'S NEW LAWYER, HASSAN KRIEZIU, BORN ABOUT 1923,
 RESIDING AND PRACTICING IN PRISTINA, WHO WAS PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
 BEFORE ENTERING PRIVATE PRACTICE ONE YEAR AGO.
- 7. POUCHING COPY IN SERBIAN OF DOCUMENT QUOTED ABOVE IN PARA 1, TOGETHER WITH ENGLISH TRANSLATION. S E C R E T

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